

Chateau La Salle Homeowner's Association
439 Chateau La Salle Dr.
San Jose, CA 95111

March 24, 2015

Mr. Murry Wilson
Department of Planning and Building
San Luis Obispo County
976 Osos Street, Room 200
San Luis Obispo, CA 94308

Re: Phillips 66 Rail Spur Project and Oil Train Offloading Facility

Dear Mr. Wilson,

At the urging of San Jose City Councilmember Ash Kalra to Murry Wilson (Nov. 20, 2014), the Homeowner's Association (HOA) at Chateau La Salle Mobile Home Park in San Jose also wishes to go on the record as opposing the proposed Phillips 66 Rail Project (rail spur) that would increase the number of railroad cars carrying crude oil to the Santa Maria refinery.

These trains would cross much of California from originating points in Canada and North Dakota, and up to five oil trains per week would travel on Union Pacific rails that are within one-half-mile of Chateau La Salle Mobile Home Park—a distance that is considered to be within the “blast” zone should there be a derailment and fire on one of these trains. Our community consists of more than 400 homes, with more than 1,000 residents. In addition, these railroad tracks serve as commuter rails on which many residents of the San Francisco Bay area use to travel to work using Caltrain. Collisions are conceivable, and a train accident would severely harm the area's economy if employees were unable to get to work for an extended period.

The proposed oil trains would be more than a mile long, and the San Jose fire department would be unable to respond to a train fire in any manner other than simply to let it burn itself out because they do not have the equipment or personnel to fight such fires. As we live in “prefabricated homes,” a fire could wipe us out and trap residents trying to escape.

The trains also leak hazardous chemicals and hazardous vapor, which could severely impact the residents of our community. Phillips 66 itself says that the project would create

"significant and unavoidable" levels of air pollution, including sulfur dioxide and carcinogenic chemicals.

We note that the San Jose City Council has unanimously opposed this project. Closer to your home, we note also that San Luis Obispo Mayor Jan Marx has sent a formal letter of opposition to this project. Other local governments in communities along the project's path are also opposed.

The Mesa Refinery Watch Group has provided detailed information as to why the project's Recirculated Draft Environmental Impact Report fails to meet environmental and safety standards for San Luis Obispo city and county. As residents of San Jose, we leave it to others to comment on the project's impact to SLO.

However, the project fails to adequately provide for the safety and health of those who live along the railroad tracks elsewhere in California, such as residents of Chateau La Salle Mobile Home Park. The project creates significant and unnecessary risk for our community.

Because of these very real risks to the lives and health of the residents of Chateau La Salle Mobile Home Park due to fire or pollution, the Chateau La Salle Homeowner's Association strongly urges the San Luis Obispo Planning Commission and the county Board of Supervisors to reject the Phillips 66 Rail Project.

Thank you very much,

Bob Hetrick, President

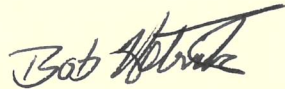
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